



مركز الإحصاء - أبوظبي
STATISTICS CENTRE - ABU DHABI

Building Materials Price Statistics March, 2013 and First quarter, 2013

April 12th, 2013

Statistics Centre- Abu Dhabi

Introduction

The monthly bulletin of Building Materials Price Statistics is of great significance; building material prices are deemed to be important economic indicators for planning and research in various fields; they can also be used in the compilation of indices of the construction activity, and are thus used in the calculation of GDP at constant prices.

Statistical centres all over the world collect prices of building materials used by a large segment of people. As a result of the urban development and the constant growth in the construction sector in the Emirate, Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi collects price data for these materials on a regular basis.

The movements of prices of 21 groups from the key building materials are included in this publication (table 8). This information helps decision and policy makers and researchers in planning and making sound decisions in support of the building materials sector and other sectors associated with it.

Key Points

This publication provides an analysis of the movement of the average prices of building materials during the month of March 2013 compared with February 2013 and March 2012, and during the first quarter of 2013 compared with the fourth quarter of 2012 and first quarter of 2012. The key changes were:

- During March 2013 the average prices of the “Employment”, “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single”, “Glass”, and “False ceiling” groups increased by 14.0%, 4.7%, 3.1% and 1.2% respectively, compared with February 2013.
- During March 2013 the average prices of the “Block” group decreased by 7.0%, “Wires for small building” by 3.5% and “Power cable” by 3.2% compared with February 2013.
- During March 2013 the average prices of “Glass” increased by 18.3%, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” by 17.2%, “Employment” by 16.3% and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” by 9.0% compared with March 2012.
- During March 2013, the average prices of “Wires for residential towers”, “Wires for apartments”, “Wires for small building”, “Block”, and “Concrete” decreased by 6.2%, 9.3%, 9.0%, 8.1% and 6.5% respectively, compared with the same period in the last year.
- During the first quarter of 2013, the average price of the “Wires for apartments” group increased by 6.0%, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” by 5.7%, while “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single” increased by 4.9%. The average prices of “Employment”, “Block” and “Paints” decreased by 7.7%, 2.4%, and 1.7% respectively, compared with the fourth quarter of 2012.
- During the first quarter of 2013 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of “Glass”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” increased by 15.4% and 14.0% and 9.0% respectively. The average prices of “Wires for residential towers”, “Apartments” and “Small building” fell by 14.8%, 9.7% and 8.0% respectively.

1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2013 compared with February 2013

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in March 2013 compared with February 2013, with increases ranging between 0.1% for the “Wood” group and 14.0% for the “Employment” group. Declines of 0.9% for the “(uPVC) Pipes” group, and 7.0% for the “Block” group were recorded.

Block

The “Block” group decreased by 7.0% in March 2013, as a result of a decrease in all items between 2.0% for “Solid\4" 10x20x40 cm\Thousand\U.A.E.” and 9.1% for “Hollow\ 8" 20x20x40 cm\ Thousand U.A.E.” compared with February 2013.

Table (1) Percentage change in the average prices of the block group

Serial	Block	Average prices of February 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Hollow \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	1,850.0	1,700.0	-8.1 ▼
2	Hollow \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,000.0	1,850.0	-7.5 ▼
3	Hollow \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,200.0	2,000.0	-9.1 ▼
4	Solid \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,450.0	2,400.0	-2.0 ▼
5	Solid \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,900.0	2,700.0	-6.9 ▼
6	Solid \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,600.0	3,300.0	-8.3 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Glass

The average prices of the “Glass” group increased by 3.1% in March 2013 compared with February 2013, mainly due to the increase in most items in this group.

Table (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the glass group

Serial	Cement	Average prices of February 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Glass \ 4 mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	47.5	50.0	5.3 ▲
2	Glass \ 6mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	65.0	67.5	3.8 ▲
3	Tinted Glass \ 4mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	n.a	n.a	
4	Tinted Glass \ 6 mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	75.0	75.0	0.0 —
5	Mirror Glass \ 4 mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	77.5	82.5	6.5 ▲
6	Mirror Glass \ 6 mm \ m ² \ Saudi Arabia	100.0	100.0	0.0 —

(n.a.): not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 14.0% in March 2013 compared with February 2013. Table (3) indicates that increases of the employment group ranged between 7.1% and 25.0%.

Table (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group

Serial	Employment	Average prices of February 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	7.0	8.0	14.3 ▲
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	7.5	8.5	13.3 ▲
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	9.0	10.0	11.1 ▲
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	9.0	10.0	11.1 ▲
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	14.0	15.0	7.1 ▲
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	20.0	25.0	25.0 ▲
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	24.0	28.0	16.7 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Note: The table presents the average hourly labor rate including food, accommodation, transport and safety equipment.

Power cable

The average prices of “Power cable” decreased by 3.2% in March 2013, as a result of decreases in all items in this group.

Table (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group

Serial	Power cable	Average prices of February 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	347,110	335,350	-3.4 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	395,990	383,830	-3.1 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm ² \ 1 km	655,890	634,330	-3.3 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wires

The average prices for Wires for “Small building” and “Apartments” decreased by 3.5% and 3.1%, while the average prices for “Wires residential towers” increased by 0.7%.

Aggregates and Sand

The “Aggregates and sand” group decreased by 2.1% in March 2013. Table (5) shows that the declines ranged between 3.4% and 9.1% compared with February 2013.

Table (5) Percentage change in the average prices of the aggregates and sand group

Serial	Aggregates and sand	Average prices of February 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Aggregates \ Crush 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	70.0	70.0	0.0 —
2	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	60.0	60.0	0.0 —
3	Aggregates \ Crush 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	70.0	70.0	0.0 —
4	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	50.0	50.0	0.0 —
5	Aggregates \ Material Sand \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	45.0	n.a	
6	Sand \ White \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	42.5	41.3	-2.9 ▼
7	Sand \ Black \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	50.0	47.5	-5.0 ▼
8	Sand \ Red \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	37.5	35.0	-6.7 ▼

(n.a.): not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2013 compared with March 2012

The monthly average prices for 14 groups of building materials have decreased in March 2013 compared with March 2012. The drop ranged between 0.6% for “Waterproofing products” and 17.4% for “Wires for residential towers”.

Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in March 2013 compared with March 2012. “Wires for residential towers” accounted for the largest decrease of 17.4%, while “Wires for apartments” and “Small buildings” decreased by 9.3% and 9.0% respectively.

Block

The average prices of “Block” decreased by 8.1% in March 2013 compared with March 2012.

Table (6): Percentage change in the average prices of the block group (March 2013 compared with March 2012)

Serial	Block	Average prices of March 2012 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Hollow \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	1,780.0	1,700.0	-4.5 ▼
2	Hollow \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,000.0	1,850.0	-7.5 ▼
3	Hollow \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,250.0	2,000.0	-11.1 ▼
4	Solid \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,600.0	2,400.0	-7.7 ▼
5	Solid \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,900.0	2,700.0	-6.9 ▼
6	Solid \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,700.0	3,300.0	-10.8 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Aggregates and sand

The “Aggregates and sand” group decreased by 5.6% in March 2013. Table (7) shows that the declines ranged between 3.4% and 13.6% compared with March 2012.

Table (7): Percentage change in the average prices of the block group (March 2013 compared with March 2012)

Serial	Aggregates and sand	Average prices of March 2012 (AED)	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Aggregates \ Crush 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	70.0	70.0	0.0 —
2	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	62.5	60.0	-4.0 ▼
3	Aggregates \ Crush 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	72.5	70.0	-3.4 ▼
4	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	50.0	50.0	0.0 —
5	Aggregates \ Material Sand \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	45.0	n.a	
6	Sand \ White \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	45.0	41.3	-8.3 ▼
7	Sand \ Black \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	55.0	47.5	-13.6 ▼
8	Sand \ Red \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	40.0	35.0	-12.5 ▼

(n.a.): not available

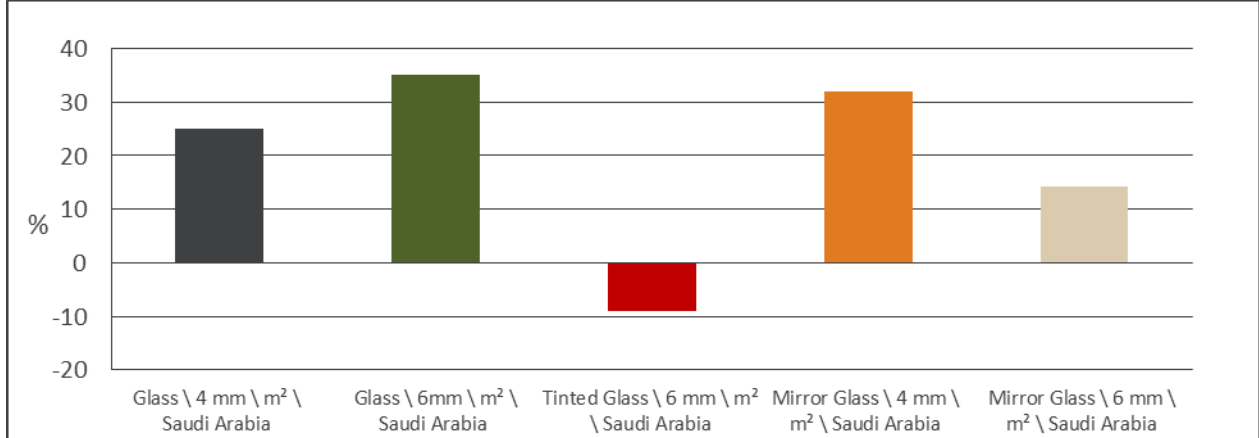
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Some building materials items have seen an increase in March 2013 compared with March 2012

Glass

The average prices of the “Glass” group increased by 18.3% in March 2013 compared with March 2012.

Figure (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the glass group (March 2013 compared with March 2012)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

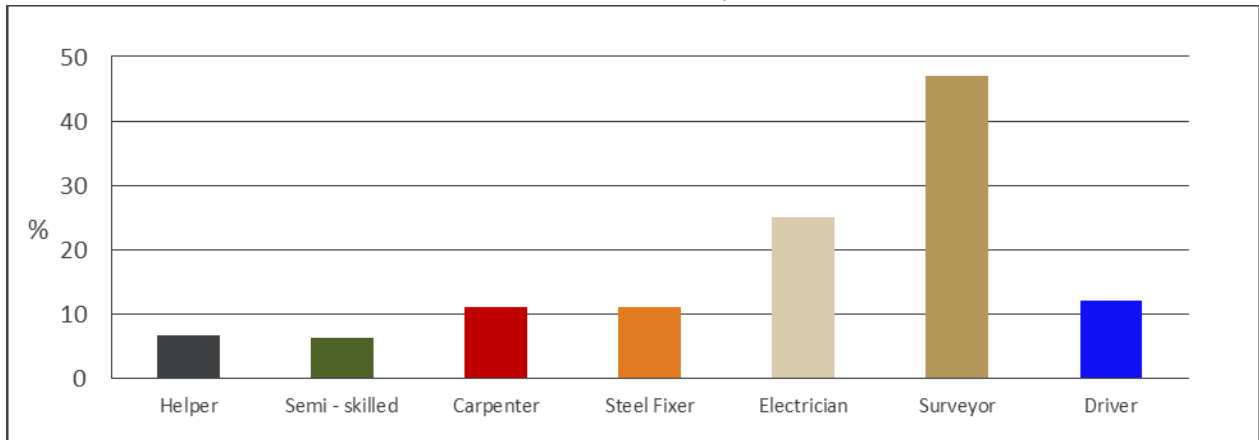
Sanitary ware

The average prices of the “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” groups increased during March 2013 by 17.2% and 9.0% respectively, while the average prices of the “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single” group decreased by 5.3% compared with March 2012.

Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 16.3% in March 2013 compared with March 2012, while most items in the group recorded an increase between 6.3% and 47.1%.

Figure (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group (March 2013 compared with March 2012)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

3. Building materials prices for Q1 2013 compared with Q4 2012

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q1 2013 compared with Q4 2012.

Increases ranged between 0.3 per cent for “Cement” and 6.0 per cent for the “Wires for apartments” group.

The average price for “Wood”, “Diesel” and “Natural stone” showed no change in Q1 2013 compared with Q4 2012.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q1 2013 compared with Q4 2012. The average prices of “Employment” decreased by 7.7 per cent, while “Block”, “Paints” and “Transport equipment” decreased by 2.4, 1.7 and 1.5 per cent respectively.

4. Building materials prices for Q1 2013 compared with Q1 2012

The average prices of building materials showed variations with most increasing during Q1 2013 compared with Q1 2012.

The price increases ranged between 0.4 per cent for “False ceiling” and 15.4 per cent for “Glass”. In addition, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” increased by 14.0 per cent, “Sanitary ware- Bathroom set with accessories” by 9.0 per cent, “Tiles and marble” by 5.4 per cent and “Waterproofing products” by 5.2 per cent.

Decreases ranged between 1.5 per cent for “Paints” and 14.8 per cent for “Wires for residential towers”, while “Wires for apartments” decreased by 9.7 per cent and “Wires for small building” by 8.0 per cent.

The average price for the “Diesel”, “Natural stone”, “roofing materials” and “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single” groups stabilized during Q1 2013, compared with Q1 2012.

Table (8): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2013, compared with February 2013 and March 2012.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change February 2013 / March 2013	Percentage change March 2012 / March 2013
1	Cement	0.0	2.7
2	Aggregates and sand	-2.1	-5.6
3	Concrete	0.0	-6.2
4	Steel	-1.3	-2.1
5	Wood	0.1	-2.8
6	Block	-7.0	-8.1
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	-2.6	-0.6
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	0.7	7.6
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.3	17.2
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	9.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	4.7	5.3
13	False ceiling	1.2	1.2
14	Paints	-1.1	-2.1
15	Glass	3.1	18.3
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-2.4	-5.4
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-0.9	-3.1
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	-3.5	-9.0
17.2	Apartments	-3.1	-9.3
17.3	Residential towers	0.7	-17.4
18	Power cable	-3.2	-5.3
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-1.6
20	Employment	14.0	16.3
21	Diesel	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Table (9): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for Q1 2013, compared with Q4 2012 and Q1 2012.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q4 2012 / Q1 2013	Percentage change Q1 2012 / Q1 2013
1	Cement	0.3	2.9
2	Aggregates and sand	-0.7	-4.4
3	Concrete	0.7	-4.2
4	Steel	-1.2	-0.9
5	Wood	0.0	-2.7
6	Block	-2.4	-3.5
7	Roofing materials	0.6	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	0.8	5.2
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	-1.2	5.4
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	4.0	14.0
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	5.7	9.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	4.9	0.0
13	False ceiling	-0.3	0.4
14	Paints	-1.7	-1.5
15	Glass	1.5	15.4
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	0.7	-3.3
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	2.2	0.8
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	-0.9	-8.0
17.2	Apartments	6.0	-9.7
17.3	Residential towers	0.5	-14.8
18	Power cable	0.6	-2.9
19	Transport equipment	-1.5	-2.6
20	Employment	-7.7	3.8
21	Diesel	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Methodology of Building Material Statistics

The current methodology for Building Materials Price Statistics including conceptual basis, construction of the basket, data collection, validation, processing procedures, averaging and treatment of missing values, and potential sources of error are described in the Building Materials Price Statistics 2012 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Building Materials Price Statistics, for April 2013 will be released on 12 May 2013. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Disclaimer

While all care and diligence has been taken with the compilation of official statistics, The Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi gives no warranty that the information, data or statistics, supplied are free of errors. SCAD shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the user following the direct or indirect use of the statistics supplied in good faith by SCAD. Users of Official Statistics are responsible for determining when and how to use the statistics for specific purposes.